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weekend

## WEATHER

#### Friday

Showers likely.  
Low 47, high 58.

#### Saturday

Scattered showers.  
Low 46, high 57.

#### Sunday

Showers.  
Low 48, high 52.

# the ECHO Taylor University Student News

December 3, 1999

Volume 87, Issue 12

Upland, Indiana

## 2000

The Echo celebrates the millennium with 100 years of Taylor history.

Coming  
next  
week...

## Parking proposal denied; problem persists

SARAH HINKLE  
Features Editor

Parking on Taylor's campus has not been an easy task this year. And now, with the added influx of freshman cars, the problem will continue to grow.

Student Senate attempted to come up with a solution to Taylor's parking problem last month. According to Olson Hall Senator Lindsay Thomas, countless hours were spent devising a proposal that would serve as at least a temporary solution.

The proposal calls for freshmen-only parking in four designated areas: the east half of the main gymnasium lot, the entire last row of the east Olson lot, the last three rows of the Swallow/Morris lot, and the north chapel lot. Approval of this policy would provide a total of 292 spaces designated specifically for the estimated 275-300 freshmen who brought cars back after Thanksgiving.

In order to ensure enforcement of the proposal, Senate also suggested that new parking stickers be issued to all freshmen, on which the letter "F" would designate a freshmen car. If a car with an "F" sticker was found in a parking space not designated for freshmen, it would be ticketed.

This proposal was passed by Senate and brought before the Community Life Committee (CLC) on Thursday, November 18, where it became the third Senate-proposed policy change to be vetoed in the past three years, according to Chairman of Senate Steve Klipp. Two years ago Senate proposed a change in open house policy that would allow both male and female dorms to be open Friday and Saturday nights just as they are on Sundays. Last year the issue of Sunday library hours went further than it ever had before—all the way to the President's Cabinet, but it was still denied acceptance for fear it

would change the ethos of the Taylor community.

"You can get your Xerox machines and shower hooks, but when it comes to policy, we won't change," Klipp said. "The community life is seen as golden, and they don't want to change it."

The 12 faculty members and four students comprising this year's committee were not convinced of the efficiency and necessity of this proposal. No one voted in favor of the proposal: two people voted against it, and eight people abstained.

Matt Barcalow, SAC vice-president and member of the CLC, felt that there was not enough time to discuss the proposal during the CLC meeting. "It was way too rushed," he said. "We had to make a decision in 15 minutes, and I just didn't have a peace about giving a decisive vote." He also thought that a decision to rearrange parking areas was "not giving a solution to the problem," rather, "...just shuffling the deck."

Bob Davis, assistant professor of physics and a member of the CLC, agreed. "Simply saying: 'You park here; you park there,' doesn't help the problem, because there are no new spaces being created nor are the number of cars being reduced."

Klipp realized that this proposal would not solve the parking issue for the long haul. The proposal was, however, a way to allay some of the difficulties students face until a permanent solution can be reached. Klipp said that this was merely a "temporary solution for a long-term problem."

Members of the committee were also concerned that the Senate proposal would "alienate freshmen," according to Klipp. However, Klipp countered that the committee's suggestion to ban freshman cars altogether would further alienate them. Although students were not officially polled, the Senate Chairman believed that freshmen would rather have designated parking areas rather than no cars at all.

"[The Senate] will not take action against freshmen having cars," Klipp assured. That does not mean that it hasn't been dis-

cussed by other administrative bodies, however. Mike Row, director of campus safety, said that Taylor is unusual, in that freshmen are allowed to have cars on campus.

Another concern with the proposal was the added manpower it would require to enforce new regulations. Row said that he would have to hire additional staff to police the proposal, which would also be an added expenditure.

Row is also concerned about the effect this policy will have on students' safety. He stressed that students should leave their cars in the residence hall parking lots rather than driving to chapel and classes. He encouraged students to "practice good stewardship and refrain from driving from building to building. That would help in lowering the amount of vehicular traffic," which, according to Row, creates a "tremendous safety hazard." This is particularly a concern of his on chapel days when it is combined with heavy pedestrian traffic.

Walt Campbell, dean of students, also feared for the safety of the students. "There are real safety issues at stake. I am not in favor of remote parking," he said. Row also wanted students, especially females, to park in well-lighted areas and to call a campus safety officer if there is any question of danger.

With what Senate researched as approximately 1500 stickers being issued to students every year, minus the 400 off-campus students and approximately 200 stickers that are exchanged each year, there are still an estimated 900 student drivers on campus who are expected to fit in the 616 spaces the university has designated for student overnight parking.

"We are open to student input and creative ways to solve this problem," Row said.

Campbell has much respect for the Senate's work on the proposal. "I deeply appreciated the work they did..." he said.

Campbell went on to add, "The proposal has highlighted the issue to a level it has not been highlighted before. We've got to get a handle on this somehow, we just don't have an answer yet."

## Banquet features 'Winter Wonderland'

### Taylor's annual Christmas dinner to include Santa, caroling, Keslers

KAREN PENNER  
News Editor

Each year TSO and the DC team up to provide students with a special Christmas meal. This year will be no different. Held this Saturday evening from five to seven, the DC will host "Winter Wonderland." This theme will be carried out through the white, pale blue and silver decorations, and a winter Christmas mural which will be displayed on the main floor.

Other activities taking place will be pictures with Santa, eggnog served by Jay and Janie Kesler, and a group of young children from area churches singing Christmas carols at 5:30 and 6 p.m.

The Christmas meal will be served buffet-style and will include carved ham and turkey, mini quiche, barbeque mini franks, sweet and sour meatballs, twice baked mashed potatoes, oven roasted red potatoes, linguine primavera, dinner rolls, cheese and crackers, vegetables and dip, fruit with fruit dip, and various kinds of ice cream served in waffle bowls. Beverages will remain the same with the addition of sparkling grape juice.

Connie Magers, front service manager for the DC, has been working with Michelle Enyeart, special activities coordinator for TSO, to ensure this event's success. Magers explained that the evening is not for couples alone. "It does not have to be a couples' night. Some students come in pajamas with their friends... I want all to enjoy the evening."



# Gift drive coming to close

MIKE SCHUELER  
Editor

Though Taylor World Outreach's Christmas Gift Drive officially ends today, gifts will continue to be accepted until Monday at noon.

The gift drive, which began on November 19th, will bring Christmas presents to over 150 underprivileged children. Senior Josh Duncan and junior Megan Garmers are TWO's community outreach co-directors, and are in charge of the annual drive.

Duncan said that although the drive has been successful thus far, at least 20 to 30 children have yet to be sponsored. Without Taylor student's continued participation in this year's gift drive, many children may end up without a present. "We want to really try to avoid that," Duncan said. "I don't really want to not give a kid a gift."

Anyone wishing to take part in the drive should stop by the Rediger Auditorium and visit the TWO Gift Drive Christmas tree. Donors should choose either a red, green, or yellow tag from the tree, and after filling out the bottom half, place it in the covered dropbox. Participants need to hold on to the tag's top half however, and use it to purchase a gift. Garmers reminds students to be sure to wrap the present and securely fix the upper half of the tag to the gift; then deliver it to the TWO office.

According to Garmers, the gift drive is designed to help a variety of needy children. The gift tags, which are organized into three different groups according to color, represent the various children who will receive donated gifts. Red tags correspond with children involved in Real Life, green tags designate members of

Kids Club, and yellow tags are for children sponsored by Helping Hands.

Duncan advises potential participants not to be discouraged by requests for unrealistic gifts. "If the child has asked for something outrageous, don't give up. Just buy them something appropriate for their age and gender, between \$5 and \$20. "And remember that children at this age always need mittens, scarves, T-shirts, sweat-shirts, or socks..." Garmers added.

Despite the gift drive's success, it has also had its share of problems. "A lot of the kids were skeptical this year," Garmers said, "because there was such a large response last year, and not enough Taylor students embraced it." As a result, some children went without presents. Duncan added that "last year was sort of a double whammy because we had a lot of



KATE TUCKER - The Echo

**Freshman Carrie Hagar examines one of the remaining tags on the TWO Gift Drive Christmas tree.**

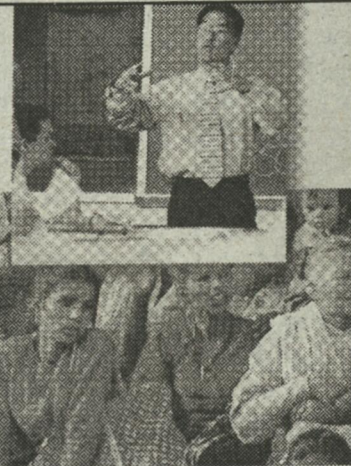
kids who were requesting unreasonable gifts... If a kid's requesting a Playstation there may be a group of students that would want to chip in and buy that for him, but most Taylor students are going to look at that and be a little skeptical and say, 'Well, why bother taking that kid's tag?'"

Duncan said that he is encouraged by Taylor students participation in this year's gift drive,

which he believes is running better than the previous year's.

Garmers said that the gift drive is really about "showing these kids that we love God and that we love His son, and that's why we're celebrating Christmas; because of His birthday." She added, "As Taylor students we are fortunate. Most of us don't realize what it means to live in a family that is needy..."

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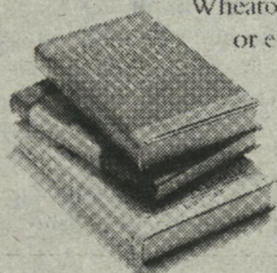
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## Depot Park lights up

Jay and Janie Kesler to be key part of festivities at 7th annual Upland Christmas Tree Lighting

JUSTIN MCLAUGHLIN  
Staff Writer

The annual Upland Christmas Tree Lighting will take place this Sunday at 5 p.m. in the newly completed Depot Park. Started in 1993 by Warren Ross, an Upland native and founder of Our Town Upland, this special celebration of Christmas is now in its seventh year. Festivities will include carriage rides sponsored by the chamber of commerce, live music, photos with Santa Claus, refreshments, and the dedication of the new town clock and Depot Park itself.

The event is organized by Our Town Upland, a committee of citizens that seeks to strengthen the Upland community through family oriented activities.

Joyce Wood, the Director of Conferences and special events for Taylor, is also a committee member of Our Town Upland. She works in University relations and feels that the Christmas tree lighting is "a neat time when Taylor [students] and the community can come together to celebrate the true meaning of the holiday."

Wood said that University relations has provided publicity for the event by sending flyers out to all Taylor students and local ele-

mentary schools for children to take home to their parents. Both Wood and Ross say that they would like to see more Taylor students participate in the festivities. "We'd love to see some of the college students come and have their picture taken with Santa Claus," said Ross.

A brass choir from Taylor's music department will be performing along with the band and choir from Eastbrook High School. Creative Dining Services, the organization that runs Taylor's dining commons, is also involved. Jerry Nelson, director of food services, said that Creative Dining provides the refreshments at the ceremony. Nelson also thinks that "Taylor students will really enjoy...the celebration."

Taylor President Jay Kesler and his wife Janie have been asked to be the honorary tree lighters at the event. Ross said it has been the committee's tradition to invite important and prominent members of the community to participate in the tree lighting. "It's an honor," Janie said, when asked about her invitation. This is the first time the Keslers will participate in the ceremony, and both are excited.

Ross feels that the relationship between Taylor and the community has really come a long way, and he hopes that more students will take advantage of this opportunity to not only celebrate Christmas, but also get involved in the community by participating in the lighting.



Editorial: *Regarding a letter in the UNDERGROUND*

Dear "Open Mind":

I read with great interest your letter in the November 3 issue of *Underground*. That the group of which you speak is "so small and secretive" may be some indication that not the broader Taylor community but the group itself may need some adjustment in its thinking. Thinking in isolation, after all, is not healthy, neither is it wise.

You identify yourself as an "agnostic." Technically, this self-designation does not square with the true definition of "agnostic," i.e., one who does not know if there is a God (from a + gnos-: literally, "without knowledge"). Also, allow me to plead for a certain level of honesty. Your own decision to "investigate the issues [of faith] for myself" has nothing to do with the trustworthiness of Christian truth-claims; rather, it is more accurate to say that you are speaking of your personal, moral decision not to be identified as a Christian. On the one hand, I applaud your honesty not to pretend being something you are not; that is commendable. (Christians need not fear the hard questions, for we all go through periods or seasons in our lives when we question our faith and the reasons that support it.) On the other hand, I question your intellectual honesty when you claim that "it is my honest conclusion that Christianity is false." The last time I checked, Christianity's truth-claims were no nearer being found "false" than blue cheese on the moon was found "true." Perhaps you confuse personal choice (which is a purely subjective, pragmatic, and moral enterprise) with the greater issue of objectivity, historicity and philosophical merit to particular truth-claims. The one is utilitarian; the other is ontological and abiding.

I am struck by the utilitarian nature of your "decision" to stay at Taylor. Your write: "my parents made it clear to me...that they would only offer me financial support if I attended a Christian college." Why take the easy route? Allow me to recommend the more principled route: Why not find attend an institution that more accurately represents your own worldview, even if this would mean the inconvenience of helping to fund your own education? In this way your "anti-testimony" (your choice of words) has greater credence. This is especially important in light of your findings while here at Taylor and your own "humble opinion" that you "adhere to higher ethical standards than many of the Christians that [sic] I've known."

Moreover, the happiness and contentment of which you write, while a consideration, carries no more inherent weight or merit than the happiness and contentment I or others at Taylor experience. In the end, it is your experience versus mine, and we are all left to ask: Whose testimony is authoritative? How do we adjudicate over personal experience? What is the court of appeal to which our experience must be submitted? Is there nothing that transcends mere personal testimony? Ultimately, your personal experience, while it may be "real," is no justification. In fact, when even irreligious social scientists are publishing findings—as they have been doing for the last decade (my own background is public-policy work before coming to Taylor)—and these findings are indicating that Americans who are religious experience considerably less "self-loathing, fear, and cognitive dissonance" than people without religious faith, this is strong evidence that undermines rather than confirms your personal "anti-testimony."

You intimate your disappointment that not all Christians are loving, fulfilled people. This finding can be true. But simply because German doctors performed cruel experiments on fellow-humans 50-60 years ago does nothing to prove that medicine is "false" or that it should be jettisoned. Neither do religious Crusades prove that religion is bad, hypocritical or harmful to one's health. And if it is violence among religious people that concerns you (I am reading your concluding paragraph), I ask you the same question I ask the students in my ethics class. Which of the following would you rather encounter if you found yourself alone in an alley late at night in inner-city Chicago? Ten men carrying whips and chains? Or ten men carrying Bibles who just came from a Bible study?

I seek to keep an open mind, as you admonish in your letter. But open minds, as the trite saying goes, need screens, and for some undetectable reason I sense that you may be confusing "openness" with a moral decision that you have made. The problem for most people who "reject" Christianity is not intellectual; it is moral. It is not that the faith provides insuperable obstacles to the intellect; rather, it is that we choose, for a variety of reasons, not to embrace the faith, at the heart of which lies Christ's uncontested lordship. Typically, these justifications for not believing are eminently utilitarian, and they are rooted in moral commitments. Keep an open mind, my friend!

-Dr. Charles

## Rediger sound problems trouble student

Walking out of Chapel on Wednesday morning I was once again disappointed by the malfunctioning sound system in Rediger Auditorium. During the past several weeks, I have frequently felt disillusioned about the Rediger sound system. It is seemingly outdated, and sub-standard when compared to other technological resources on campus. Whether I am onstage during a 90's night performance attempting to perform despite the ear-wrenching feedback bursting from the speakers, or simply watching a Chapel speaker endeavor to casually make a joke after a reverberation has just ruined the mood of his or her presentation, I am both embarrassed for the speaker/performer and for Taylor University.

I do believe that promptly finding a sound technician to replace the knowledgeable Roger Rayburn was a needed and worthwhile move on the part of the Administration. However, I also propose that these consistent interruptions are not just the result of human error. Much of what we hear in the form of feedback and "crackles" can be attributed to malfunctioning equipment. Therefore, even if the equipment has been recently replaced, the past few weeks concur that it is still interfering with the "excellence of presentation" during the performances and services in the Auditorium, and a drastic change is needed.

I ask the Administration to consider using monies so that this problem may be resolved quickly and efficiently. It is wonderful that we are able to raise upwards of 75 million dollars to build new buildings, but we must first consider the importance of upkeep of the facilities presently in use. Utilizing Christmas and J-term break would provide amply time to resolve the technical problems in Rediger, which would in turn assure more "technically smooth" chapels during the spring semester. Realizing how much technical problems can retract from corporate worship, I earnestly hope that this issue has already been considered and actions are being taken to remedy it. If so, then this letter can be disregarded. If not, then this letter stands as a call for action from myself, and those students who share this concern.

-Jason Hillier

## "Angsty duck" raises feathers

The editorial regarding the purpose of the Echo printed in the November 19 edition was appreciated. Indeed, a campus newspaper has a difficult task and is an easy target for (sometimes cheap) criticism. The editorial indicated a desire for constructive feedback from readers, and with that intent I present the following concern.

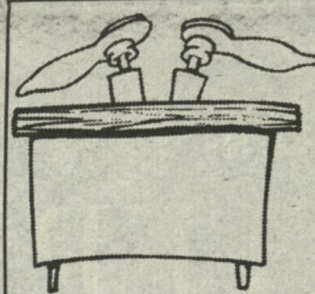
The beginning of the guest column, "The Musings of an Angsty Duck," appeared to be a humorous, insider view of life as a member of Sammy II. About half-way through, however, the topic turned to focus directly on girls - specifically "giggly girls," "wretched beasts," "stupid girls," and girls who are "so dumb."

Two issues warrant response: The content of the column and the decision to print it. Regarding content, in what way does the message edify the community? Granted, there is a place for wit and sarcasm as methods for communicating things meaningful and true. Yet what meaningful insight was provided - positive or negative? Applauding negative attitudes towards women, whether in jest

or not, does a disservice to our sister in Christ. Speaking of men who "just sit in a corner and wonder, 'Why are girls so dumb?'" makes no great statement of the character or spiritual maturity of our Christian brothers. It is a good thing to live in a place where a person can be one's self. However, it is unfortunate when pride in one's community requires the debasement of others. There is certainly much more that could be said regarding the content, but that is perhaps best left for individual discussion with the author.

Secondly, why was the article printed by the Echo? It would have been (somewhat) less distressing if it was a letter to the editor, but to print such material as a guest column seems to further denigrate the reputation that the Echo has been trying to protect. In way sense did this column support the Echo's goal "to tell the truth in a tactful and timely fashion?" How does this demonstrate the Echo's claim to "believe that Taylor deserves nothing less than the relentless pursuit of perfection?"

-Richard Muthiah



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The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily represent The Echo, its staff or Taylor University.



# This broken record is music to coach's ears

**SARAH HINKLE**  
Features Editor

The crowd gasps as the Trojans steal the ball from the opposing team. Gasps turn to shouts as fans all across the gymnasium leap to their feet in anticipation. A fast break opens the player up to a perfect shot. He aims and fires. The ball soars through the air, just making it into the basket by the time the buzzer ends the game. The crowd, dizzy with the intensity of the final seconds, lets out a roar that could bring the house down. The men's basketball team has won yet another game under the tutelage of 21-year veteran and Head Coach, Paul Patterson. But this crowd has no idea the real excitement behind the win. It is a landmark game in Patterson's illustrious career, pushing him over the edge to break Don Odle's record for most career wins at Taylor. Patterson, as of December 2, 1999, boasts 465 wins to Odle's 460.

"This is a by-product of

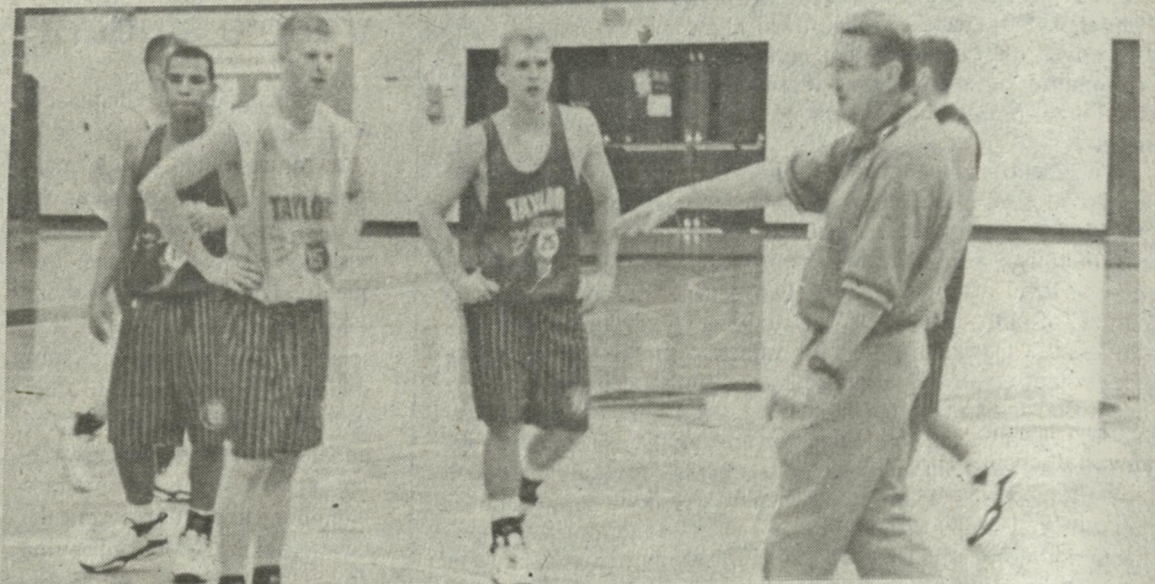
longevity and doing a good job at everything we do," Patterson said. "We have been blessed with real achievers."

Athletic Director Dave Bireline was unavailable for comment, as he was in California with the volleyball team. However, Joe Romine, former athletic director, said of Patterson's recent accomplishment, "I think it's great. Coach Patterson is one of the best basketball coaches around. I'm very happy for him."

According to Patterson, quality basketball can be played in two ways: either "athletic talent and playing hard, or not as much physical ability but disciplined players, teamwork, and commitment." It is the latter tactic that Patterson indoctrinates into his program.

"I stress team atmosphere. We have to play together to do well," Patterson said. "We also play hard and try to be good defensively. These are the foundations of quality basketball."

"Coach Patterson is a real student of the game of basketball,"



NOEL SCHUTT - The Echo

*Men's basketball Head Coach Paul Patterson goes through the plays with team members during practice. Patterson stresses not only quality basketball, but also the players' personal growth.*

Romine said. According to Romine, Patterson reads books on basketball, talks to other coaches, and leads seminars at coaches' clinics. But Romine also realizes that Patterson's approach is not solely an intellectual one. Patterson is also a mentor to the players. "He deals with each player as an individ-

ual. He coaches in perspective of the whole person," Romine said.

"I feel a sense of awe at what God has done in young men's lives and that I get to be a part of it all," Patterson said.

Patterson also feels strongly that "there is a need in the secular athletic world to see

Christians doing well by hard work, honesty, and persevering through difficulties."

Though Patterson recognizes that breaking this record "represents a lot of hard work by a lot of good people," he also wants to focus on the fact that "we are in the middle of a season and we have to concentrate on that."

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# Not quite Spielberg, but film festival displays true talent

**ABBY McLAUGHLIN**  
Associate Editor

Glitz, graveyards and great films all characterized the first annual Trojan Film Festival on Thursday night. Six of the 10 movies entered in the contest made the festival, and the level of excitement was high among viewers and movie creators alike. Rediger Auditorium was abuzz with students anxious to see just what the new film festival was all about. They were far from disappointed, as was Vinnie Manganello, Films Coordinator for SAC. "I'm really happy with it [the festival]. It was a great show, and I think it went well," Manganello said after the event. Manganello came up with the idea for the film festival last spring, and was in charge of the entire show.

The evening began with a welcome from Manganello and the introduction of the first film, "The Dogs are Barking," produced by Brian Armes. The second film by Amanda Gunderson, was actually a music video for

the song "Spilled," by the group *Many Deceived*. "No Rock for Jimmy," a comical story by Katherine Forbes about a "paper, rock, scissors" tournament, succeeded in being one of the lighter films of the evening. Matt Stephens, director of "The Stop," called his work an allegorical drama dealing with the impending death of a cancer patient who, with the help of a stranger, learns to embrace life with Christ. "Two by Two," a film created by Josh Vander Meer, used Legos as its form of animation.

After all six movies were viewed, the panel of judges, comprised of five faculty members and four students, convened in the Stuart Room to make the decision as to who deserved the award for Best Picture. Meanwhile, the audience and participants, nervously awaiting the outcome, were soothed by overtones of a string quartet.

Then the awards presentation began. Winners in each category (Best Actor/Actress, Best Supporting Actor/Actress, Best

Director and Best Picture) were presented with a miniature "Oscar." The presenters' personalities ranged from the duo of Seinfeld and Kramer to the ever-famous Backstreet Boys.

The movie "Marros Oneiro," translated as "black dream," won the award for Best Picture. The film, written and produced by Matt Bellito and directed by both Bellito and Joshua Craig Olson, starred Drew Burkholder, who took home the "Oscar" for Best Actor. The film also won awards for Best Director and Best Supporting Actress (Jen Dake).

Bellito said, "It's about a kid who loses the ability to sleep because of various circumstances, and therefore can't dream, and then kills himself." Olson added that there was a real "loss of hope" in the film.

The idea for the film was originally Bellito's, who said he likes creative writing, and the idea "just came to him." Olson, on the other hand, was the technical expert of the duo. The two directors said they would most



NOEL SCHUTT - The Echo

Josh Olson, co-director of the winning film, "Marros Oneiro," receives his "Oscar" at the culmination of the film festival.

likely take the \$500 cash prize and split it among the people who were involved in the film.

All in all, the event was a hit. Manganello was impressed with the amount of participation and

the quality of the films. He said, "We had a good turnout; everything went smoothly. I think it's a good, solid start, and I'm looking forward to many years of this tradition."



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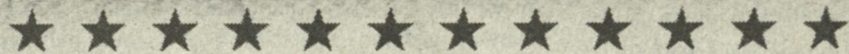
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**Without a doubt the best thing I've ever done!**

Mo Ahmadi  
Kennesaw State University





## koinonia: community



One of the major topics that is discussed after asking people how they are doing relates to the idea of suffering. Even when prayer requests are taken, some sort of suffering shines through what is being shared. I ask right now what the point is behind my braking two bones in the arm right before finals.

I remember asking the same question last spring when my sister's 24 year old husband died and a year ago when my best friend's mom was diagnosed with cancer. Is God goofing up when things such as these happen? Doesn't He realize that I have two exams and three papers due in the next week? Then why am I hurting or feeling overwhelmed by so much?

Philip Yancey does an excellent job at answering the question "where is God when it hurts?" in his book by the same name (I highly recommend your reading it, perhaps over Christmas break).

Instead of grieving, which in itself is a necessary part of the coping process, have you ever thought about why these points in our lives are painful? Is there anything beneficial to be processed from it all?

I believe we are mostly strengthened by painful times. It is often when we are most desperate for God and are in need for specific answers that we learn so much about ourselves and about the role God has placed upon us. I think that pain is a major asset to God's shaping and molding us more into His image.

Dr. Spiegel asked me why we don't actually ask for more pain if this is the case. I Peter claims that "you have been grieved by various trials that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it be tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Enduring painful experiences helps to shape who we are in Christ and it opens up the door for us to minister to those going through similar experiences. I challenge you to think about how past or present tough times have developed your character and to then see how it would be appropriate to thank God for those times. -James Kutnow

## Guest Columnist: The True Light



Thanksgiving has always been a wonderful time. The meals and football games aside, the best part is family. I got to see my brother's new beard, hug my mom and play golf with my dad. The part that I loved most was Thanksgiving afternoon when my dad and I played hide-and-go-seek with my sister. For four days, I didn't have a care in the world.

And I came back here. Papers. Presentations. Issues. Everything I left was waiting. All of my problems, my worries, my insecurities, they crawl in my backpack as I shoulder the load again. I go off to classes and meetings. The backpack is heavy, so heavy. I know what is in there. But I do not dare put the pack down, lest someone see me show weakness.

Day after day, it continues. The load grows heavier. I grow angrier with myself. I have handled things like this before, so why can't I handle it now? Soon my shoulders are raw from the straps. The pack slides off. Inside are all of the worries, the insecurities, the problems. They've grown. Together, they have fed off of each other. Mocking glares return my surprised gaze. My frustration

mounts. I am determined more than ever to bear the load and survive.

Off into the night I go with my backpack of troubles. The weight increases. Frustration turns to anger. I find myself in a tunnel. The walls and ceiling close in as I press on.

A light appears in the distance. It intensifies and moves nearer. I strain to see but I am unable to make out a shape. It continues to come. Curiosity gives way to fear. Whatever it is, it will soon expose me and see all of my burdens. Fear gives rise to panic. I turn and run. I run as hard and as fast as I can. Yet, the light source gains on me.

I run until I can run no more. My muscles fail. I tumble to the ground. Light fills the tunnel around me. I cover my eyes, trembling. I am found out.

Hands reach down. The backpack is pulled from my shoulders. What is this? I turn as look at a man. A man who now shoulders my backpack, my burdens. The nail-pierced hands of the Savior reach out for mine. He pulls me up and grabs me in a fierce embrace. "Come, rest in Me," He says. "My burden is light." I ran from the One who could help, yet He came running to me.

If only I had stopped sooner.

-Jeff Nicoson

## Puffs from The Magic Dragon



As this millennium draws to a close, so ends the final chapter of my Chinese memoirs. After being away from family and friends for nearly four months, the prospect of going home gleams like a diamond in the distance.

Even college boys miss their Moms at times, especially when Thanksgiving rolls around and they realize that there's not a scrap of turkey or a drop of gravy within a 15,000 mile radius. Let's face it, even the tastiest pieces of sliced jellyfish and the creamiest bowl of sea cucumber soup pales in comparison to a mound of mashed potatoes and gravy. (Can I get an Amen?)

Since my last article the CSP posse has left the podunkdom of Xi'an for the bright lights and sights of Beijing. One of my personal favorites of our six day stay

in China's capital was visiting Mao's mausoleum. It's not everyday that you have the chance to view the embalmed body of a communist dictator; plus as soon as you exit Mao's presence you can purchase up to three different kinds of commemoratively embossed cartons containing the late Chairman's favorite cigarettes! Communism and cancer sticks, what could be more fun? The only thing that comes close in my mind is showing up late to Prof. Collymore's Bib Lit I class.

Currently our group is studying "Economics and Modernization" at Fudan University in Shanghai. It's not cup of tea, but Fudan is reputed to be the "Yale of China" which makes me wonder: What's the Taylor of China? Hmm... you gotta think about this stuff people, otherwise you'll wake up one day, 78 years old in a trailer park, married to someone named Franchesca, wondering, "Why

## Musings of an Anxsty Duck



Why am I so white?

I look fairly normal until I take my shirt off. My chest is so white that

men avert their eyes, babies weep, and the cleaning ladies yell, "Dear God, what is that thing?"

Now don't get me wrong, I have tried to improve the tone of my skin. On a floor retreat to the Ohio River, I walked around topless. After an entire day of blinding people on the river, I had still not tanned and/or burned. I had instead turned a nice, light pink. I resembled Babe the pig.

Why could I not tan? Why was I so white? Why did I care so much? I had fallen into the same pop culture trap that tells girls they are fat if they do not look like Calista Flockhart. I was concerned about how I looked, and for what? Was I trying to silence the mockery? Was I trying to impress girls? Was I trying to fit into some cultural definition of good-looking?

I've never considered myself extremely good looking. While Matt and Mike Poorman think I'm sexy and my mom tells me I'm the cutest guy at school, those do not really

count. I'm just another face in the crowd. However, that day on the Ohio River made me wish to be pretty. How can I ever attempt to woo women like Sarah Hinkle and Kate Bowman if albinos laugh at me when I take my shirt off?

I finally realized that none of this mattered. Right now is when most people would insert some cute saying like, "It's what is on the inside that counts," but that is a lie. We all know that looks do matter. We have all commented on how cute, hot, gorgeous, or "quality" someone is. We have all judged someone by their looks. Yes, we all have inner beauty, and we should appreciate people for this. But beauty is more than some trite clique meant to make ugly people feel good. Instead I think we should focus on our physical beauty. We all have something that is physically beautiful about us. I have a nice smile. Maybe you have nice feet. Whatever you have you need to embrace it, and you need to appreciate the physical beauty around you. How much better would this silicon augmented world be if every once in awhile we leaned over to the person next to us and said, "You've got cute feet."


-Ben Reed

are my teeth in a glass cup beside my bed and what happened to my life?" I've seen it happen a thousand times.

So what have I learned on this trip? Well, several things have hit me as of late: (1)How truly blessed I am to live in "the land of the free" (2)How much I miss the "family" at Taylor (3)How

much I hate retail (AKA-America needs to have an open black market) (4)How God is faithful, loving, and sustaining where ever I am, despite what I do (5)That the most precious things in life are always carried with you, no matter how far away they seem to be at times.

-Davis Evans

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# The Messiah "Handels" holiday spirit

KATE BOWMAN  
Arts & Leisure Editor

Every year, right after Thanksgiving, almost as soon as the debris from our whirlwind family dinner had been cleared from the table, my family would move swiftly on to the next order of business: decorating for the Christmas season.

I have vivid childhood memories of winding tiny white lights and fragrant pine garland around the pillars of our front porch, my breath visible in the late November air; of reverently placing favorite ornaments, worn with sentimental value, on the boughs of our towering Christmas tree; of standing on tip-toe beside my mother as she iced Christmas cookies, hoping for a taste.

And the soundtrack to my memories, nestled with the warm golden glow of firelight and the soft cadences of my father's voice telling the Christmas story, is always the same: "Hallelujah!"

For me, the Christmas season is synonymous with *The Messiah*, George Frideric Handel's magnum opus, which he wrote in 1741 over the course of 24 days and which was first performed in Dublin, Ireland in 1742. Never having been to a live perform-

ance of the oratorio, I was thrilled when I heard that the Taylor Chorale and Fort Wayne Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra were presenting selections from *The Messiah* on Wednesday, December 1 in the Rediger Chapel Auditorium.

This was the second time the Philharmonic has performed *The Messiah* with the Chorale at the Upland campus, and for only a second outing, the show was impressive. Assistant professor of music Joann Rediger, who directs the 69-member Chorale, was on hand to sing with her students in the ensemble. The 44-piece philharmonic was extremely strong and obviously well-rehearsed, especially considering its diminutive size. Soloists Adele Karam (soprano), Debra Austin (mezzo-soprano), Fritz Robertson (tenor), and John Shuffle (bass baritone) lent a professional air to the production. The remarkably cohesive gelling of these three elements was largely due to the passionate gesturing (better known as conducting) of music director Edvard Tchivzhel.

What impressed me most about this performance was the strength of the Taylor Chorale. The orchestra was solid and the

soloists were well-trained, but the Chorale seemed to throw its entire weight into every selection. "O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion" and "Let us break their bonds asunder" particularly stood out as far as professional sound and contagious passion.

The most notable lull in this performance was a disappointing lack of dynamism. Maybe that's just because, growing up, I was spoiled with recordings of the illustrious London Festival Orchestra, and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic was naturally not as expansive. Or maybe it was that I regard opera wunderkind Kathleen Battle as the standard, while these soloists were not particularly arresting. (The notable exception is soprano Karam, who not only possessed a lovely voice but also suitable stage presence.) It could be that I felt that a piece about which the composer said, "I did think I did see all Heaven before me and the great God Himself," ought to be absolutely exploding with passion. This performance, unfortunately, was not, largely due to the size of the orchestra and Chorale. Or maybe my dissatisfaction was a product of my overblown expectations for the



KATE TUCKER - The Echo

Mezzo-soprano Debra Austin sings an air with some help from Taylor Chorale and Ft. Wayne Philharmonic.

program.

Overall, however, this performance of Handel's *Messiah* was reverent and well-executed, with its many highlights more than outweighing the occasional low point. With only two years

under its belt, the partnership between the Taylor Chorale and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic has plenty of opportunity to mature and reach its full potential. Most importantly, I felt like a kid at Christmastime again.

## Art exhibit stands on the side of the downtrodden

KATE BOWMAN  
Arts & Leisure Editor

"Your show is full of emotion. It almost hurts to look at it," reads a comment in the notebook resting next to a pair of African candlesticks on a table in the Ayres foyer. If this is true, Rachel Zerkle has achieved the goal of her masterful and thought-provoking senior art show, which will be on display in the foyer through December 16.

"This show is in a sense my

effort to lay bare the pain of humanity in the hope that all of us may feel it a little more deeply," Zerkle says in her artist statement. Her exhibit is a commentary on upper-class American ideals and God's righteous indignation about our insular thinking.

Zerkle's inspiration for the pieces in this show was birthed out of a semester spent in Kenya at Daystar University, as well as summers in the inner city, which gave her a new perspective on poverty and pain.

The exhibit features four bronze-finished hydrostone sculpture pieces and three water-washed charcoal drawings on watercolor paper. Zerkle says she chose these unusual media because she wanted to use her senior show as an opportunity to learn more about sculpture and explore different media.

Zerkle also chose the human figure as the subject for all seven pieces, because she feels that "people can always relate to the human figure; it's not something abstract or hard to understand."

The study of human anatomy in Zerkle's exhibit is directly proportional to the plight of



KATE TUCKER - The Echo

Untitled, Rachel Zerkle

humanity represented in the exhibit. The sculpture "Two Hands" depicts one strong hand crushing a fragile one, which Zerkle says symbolizes oppression. A series of three drawings entitled "Despair" darkly portray bodies curled in various stages of the fetal position. One untitled wall sculpture shows a desperate woman covering her eyes; another depicts a woman covering her ears. The captions next to them quote mothers who say they would rather be blind and deaf than have to see or hear their children suffer.

The African proverb painted across the foyer wall as a mast-



## shake it up, baby

by Aaron Konopka and Josh Rugema

### #99 Vanilla Acappella

As the name suggests, this is a shake in which vanilla flavoring stands alone. It is a traditional vanilla shake with nothing new added. It goes down as smooth as Tyree's moves on the shipyard football field. It is fitting for those who enjoy the old-fashioned taste of a rich vanilla shake. But, obviously, it is not tops on Ivanhoe's creativity list.

### #20 Chocolate Chip

Another traditional shake to go with the vanilla. It is vanilla-rich with chocolate "chips" swirled throughout. The secret to this shake's hidden taste is in the chocolate. The chips are chocolate shavings and prove to go down with the greatest of ease. They don't get hard like real chocolate chips would get in ice cream. A great success.

This week we would have to recommend the Chocolate Chip. Go get one.

head sums up the exhibit's message: "When all of humanity suffers together, the individual does not suffer." Zerkle's exhibit

challenges the viewer to become uncomfortable with his or her complacency and participate fully in the human experience.

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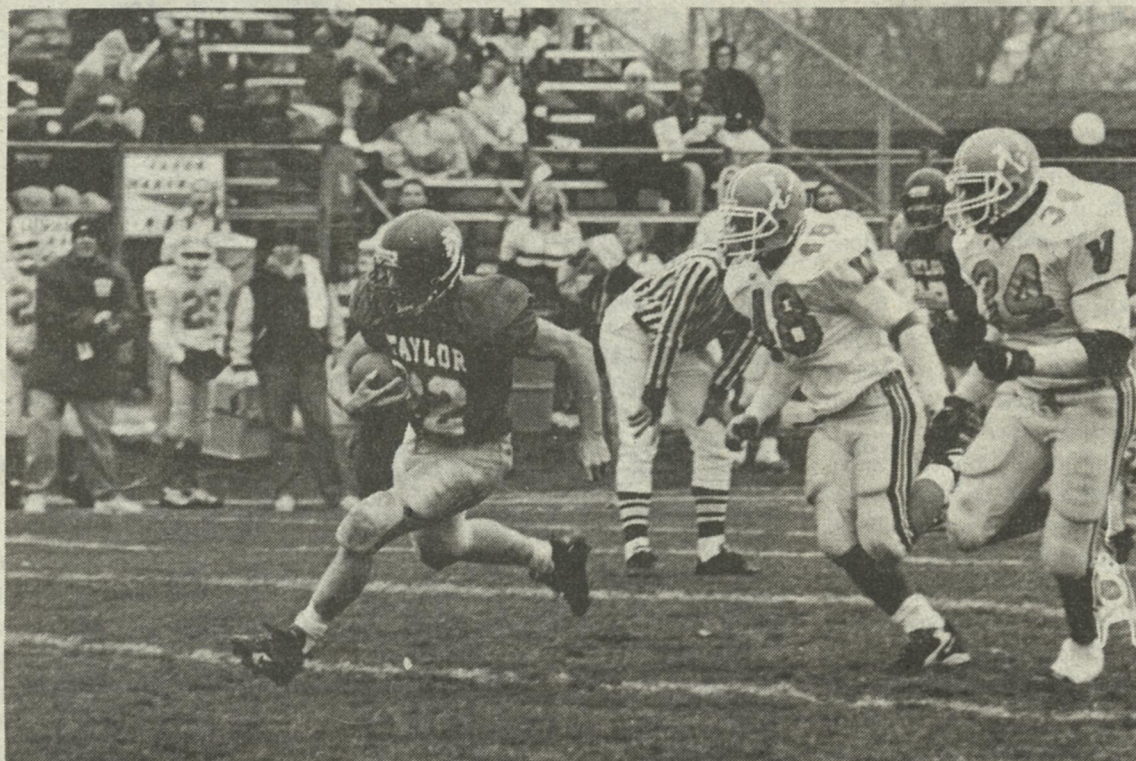
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# Football finishes

# X-country seventh



NOEL SCHUTT-The Echo

John Molineux breaks away from the Missouri Valley defense in the first round of the NAIA playoffs. The game was the first time that Taylor was victorious in a playoff game.

## LUKE J. REIMER Sports Editor

The Taylor team suffered a 55-3 defeat November 27 in the second round of the NAIA playoffs.

The Trojans, ranked fifth in the NAIA going into the game, were unable to capitalize on their one real touchdown threat early in the game against Georgetown College of Kentucky on the Tigers' home field.

Taylor threatened to score early in the first quarter until Jon Jenkins' second-and-goal pass was picked off by Georgetown's Will Stinson, the Outstanding Defensive Player of the Game.

"We weren't on top of our

game," Coach Steve Wilt said of the game.

Taylor finally managed to get on the board with Mike Moser's 24 yard field goal as time elapsed in the second quarter. However, the score on its own was the only answer to the Tigers' five first-half touchdowns and the only time Taylor would score all game.

Taylor earned the right to face Georgetown by defeating Missouri Valley College 34-14 in the first round of the NAIA playoffs. The game was the first time Taylor had ever hosted a football playoff game and Taylor's first playoff win. "Things were really clicking for us," Coach Wilt said.

"It was a great season," Coach Wilt said of the Taylor football team's 10-2 finish. The season marks the first time that the program has recorded 10 wins.

Individually, seven Trojans were named to the All-MSFA (Mid-States Football Association) first team. Coach Wilt pointed to the team's unity and spiritual maturity as reasons to be proud of this year's Trojans besides their gridiron prowess.

With Taylor's third winning season in a row under their belts the Taylor program is looking for further success in the future. "We hope we've established a foundation," Coach Wilt said about Taylor's prospects.

## LUKE J. REIMER Sports Editor

In the final meet of the season, the Taylor men's cross-country team finished seventh at NAIA nationals.

"You can't be dissatisfied with a top 10 finish in nationals. We ought to be proud of that," Coach Chris Coy said.

The Jarheads went into the meet ranked fifth and were ranked as high as third at one point.

Initial ranking is no guarantee of success after the gun, however, "It's kind of a crapshoot," said Coach Coy about the meet.

Taylor's top runner, Gabriel

Rop, finished 14th in the race and the team scored 240 points, only six points behind fifth place Brevard, who scored 234. The Life University Running Eagles placed first with 25 points.

"Some runners ran better than expected and some ran worse than expected." Captain Jon Tabor said about the team's performance on the national course.

The Jarheads feel they have strong chances of similar or more success in the future. With the exception of Senior Mike Sandelin, all of Taylor's runners in the race were juniors.

# Trojan sports in brief

## LUKE J. REIMER Sports Editor

### Men's Basketball

Taylor dropped its third straight game on 40-52 to Tri-State and dropped to 6-3 on the season. Taylor went into the Columbia Tournament with an undefeated 6-0 record but dropped two decisions there before coming home. Taylor lost to home team Columbia 50-59 and then to Hannibal-LaGrange 61-69 for their first and second losses of the season. The Trojans are now on the road at the Pioneer Classic in Ohio.

### Women's Basketball

The Lady Trojans lost an 86-83 decision to Spring Arbor on Nov. 29 in spite of a late game Taylor rally. The women were led in scoring by Bridget Carlson who

scored 15 points. Besides Carlson four other Taylor players scored in double digits. Taylor fell to 5-6 on the year, having won their first tournament game to earn a place in the championship game of the Taylor/Avis invitational.

### Volleyball

Taylor defeated Wilmington College last night 15-9, 15-12, 15-7 in NAIA national tournament action. The Lady Trojans improved to 1-2 in their pool at the tournament. Taylor previously was defeated by third ranked Lewis-Clark and sixth ranked Westmont college. The women were placed in a round-robin pool from which the top two teams will go on to a single elimination tournament. The Lady Trojans next match is today against St. Mary at 9:00am Pacific time.



## NICK DAVID



**Sport:** Basketball

**Position:** Guard

**Uniform #:** 25

**Major:** Physical Education

**Hometown:** Kendallville, Indiana

**Family:** Nick's father is the athletic director and assistant principal of a middle school and his mother is a counselor at another middle school. Nick also has two brothers, Andy, who is a funeral director, and Rocky who is a senior in high school.

**Basketball History:** At the age of five Nick played on his first organized basketball team. Since then Nick has been named All-State in high school. After transferring to Taylor last year from IUPUI Nick led the Trojans in scoring with a 13.3 points per game, shooting 44.5% from the floor, including 40.6 from behind the three-point stripe.



## Athlete of the Week

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